

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 4 as follows:

A complete listing of all pending claims, and their status, is included

1. (Currently Amended) A low pressure discharge lamp having a double helix shape comprising:

a lamp base and an envelope connected to the lamp base,

the envelope having a phosphor coating on an interior surface thereof and containing a gas fill energizable to a discharge state by electrical voltage, the envelope including discharge tube sections wound helically about a longitudinal axis and fitted into each other as a double-start thread,

the discharge tube sections having first end portions and second end portions,

the first end portions being closer to the lamp base and each having a gas-tight sealing and electrodes in the sealing for receiving the electric voltage,

the second end portions being farther off the lamp base and each having a gas-tight sealing,

the second end portions being bent inwardly from a pitch of the helix and extending next to each other spaced apart by a clearance,

a passageway formed between said second end portions and spaced apart by a distance from the sealing of each said second end portion.

2. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which said second end portions are bent inwards diametrically opposite to each other from the pitch of the helix.

3. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which the passage is formed by bridging.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method of forming a discharge lamp of claim 1 comprising:

providing an envelope with a phosphor coating on an interior surface thereof and a gas fill energizable to a discharge state by electrical voltage, the envelope including discharge tube sections wound helically about a longitudinal axis and fitted into each other as a double-start thread,

the discharge tube sections having first end portions and second end portions, a lamp base and an envelope connected to the lamp base,

the first end portions being closer to the lamp base and each having a gas-tight sealing and electrodes in the sealing for receiving the electric voltage,

the second end portions being farther off the lamp base and each having a gas-tight sealing,

said second end portions being bent inwardly from a pitch of the helix and extending next to each other spaced apart by a clearance; and

in which forming a passage between said second end portions and spaced apart by a distance from the sealing of each said second end portion, the passage is being formed by a blow molding.

5. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which the second end portions include at least approximately straight tube sections, and the passage is formed between the straight tube sections.

6. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which the sealing of each second end portion is at least approximately hemispherical.

7. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which the passage has an axis and the distance between the axis of the passage and a tip of the sealing of the second end portions is 1-4 times the discharge tube diameter.

8. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which the lamp base is provided with a threaded portion suitable for connecting the lamp mechanically and electrically and a ballast circuit is located therein.

9. (Original) The discharge lamp of claim 1 in which the lamp base has a plug suitable for connecting the lamp mechanically and pins suitable for connecting the lamp electrically to a ballast circuit forming a unit separated from the lamp.